

Amendments to the Claims

**Note:** all claim amendments are made relative claims presented via the Article 19 amendment.

1 (original). An inkjet recording medium obtained by forming a coating layer containing a pigment and a binder on the surface of a base material and said coating layer is subsequently pressed onto a heated mirror finished surface to dry to form an ink absorbing layer through a cast coating method, wherein said pigment contains a colloidal silica that has a primary particle diameter of from 10 nm to 100 nm while the ratio of the secondary particle diameter to said primary particle diameter is from 1.5 to 3.0.

2 (original). An inkjet recording medium obtained by forming a coating layer containing a pigment and a binder on the surface of a base material, a treatment solution used to coagulate said binder is subsequently applied to said coating layer surface while wet and the coating layer on which said treatment solution is applied is pressed on to a heated mirror finished surface while said coating layer is wet to dry the layer to form an ink absorbing layer, wherein said pigment contains a colloidal silica that has a primary particle diameter of from 10 nm to 100 nm while the ratio of the secondary particle diameter to said primary particle diameter is from 1.5 to 3.0.

3 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein an undercoating layer is formed between said base material and said ink absorbing layer.

4 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 3~~ wherein the primary particle diameter of said colloidal silica is from 10 nm to 50 nm and said pigment also contains  $\gamma$ -type alumina.

5 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 3~~ wherein the primary particle diameter of said colloidal silica is from 10 nm to 50 nm and said pigment also contains silica formed using a vapor phase method and having a specific surface area of from 130 m<sup>2</sup>/g to 300 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

6 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 3~~ wherein the primary particle diameter of said colloidal silica is from 30 nm to 100 nm and said pigment also contains a synthetic non-crystalline silica formed using a wet method.

7 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 6~~ wherein the content of said colloidal silica is from 5% by weight to 50% by weight based on total pigment in said ink absorbing layer.

8 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 7~~ wherein said binder contains a water soluble resin.

9 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 7~~ wherein said binder contains poly(vinyl alcohol) and/or a poly(vinyl alcohol) derivative.

10 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 9~~ wherein the ratio by weight of the pigment and the binder in said ink absorbing layer satisfies the relationship  $(\text{pigment})/(\text{binder}) = \text{from } 100/3 \text{ to } 100/50$ .

11 (currently amended). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 through 10~~ wherein the 75° specular gloss of said ink absorbing layer surface is at least 50% and the degree of image transparency is at least 20%.

12 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein an undercoating layer is formed between said base material and said ink absorbing layer.

13 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the primary particle diameter of said colloidal silica is from 10 nm to 50 nm and said pigment also contains  $\gamma$ -type alumina.

14 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the primary particle

diameter of said colloidal silica is from 10 nm to 50 nm and said pigment also contains silica formed using a vapor phase method and having a specific surface area of from 130 m<sup>2</sup>/g to 300 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

15 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the primary particle diameter of said colloidal silica is from 30 nm to 100 nm and said pigment also contains a synthetic non-crystalline silica formed using a wet method.

16 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the content of said colloidal silica is from 5% by weight to 50% by weight based on total pigment in said ink absorbing layer.

17 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein said binder contains a water soluble resin.

18 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein said binder contains poly(vinyl alcohol) and/or a poly(vinyl alcohol) derivative.

19 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the ratio by weight of the pigment and the binder in said ink absorbing layer satisfies the relationship (pigment)/(binder) = from 100/3 to 100/50.

20 (new). The inkjet recording medium as defined in Claim 2 wherein the 75° specular gloss of said ink absorbing layer surface is at least 50% and the degree of image clarity is at least 20%.